

# GARDENING AND WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

- ◆ Instead of running the sprinklers every day, water the lawn only when it needs it or just give it a good soak once a week. If the grass springs back when you step on it, there's no need to water. (Saves 750-1500 gallons/month)
- ◆ Use mulch (chunks of bark, peat moss) to cover bare ground in gardens and around trees to slow evaporation. (Saves 750-1500 gallons/month)
- ◆ Water the lawn in the early morning or evening when there is less evaporation. (Saves 300 gallons/month)
- ◆ Plant drought-resistant, native trees and plants. (Saves 750-1500 gallons/month).
- ◆ Adjust your sprinklers so they don't water the sidewalk, driveway or street. (Saves 500 gallons/month)
- ◆ Skip watering the lawn on a windy day when there is too much evaporation. (Saves 200-300 gallons each time)
- ◆ Cut down watering on cool, overcast or rainy days. Adjust or deactivate automatic sprinklers. (Saves 200-300 gallons each time)
- ◆ Set lawn mower blades one notch higher because longer grass means less evaporation...it also reduces stress on the grass during hot, dry periods. (Saves 500-1500 gallons/month)



Adapted from: Illinois Dept. Natural Resources, "There's more than one way to save water."

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